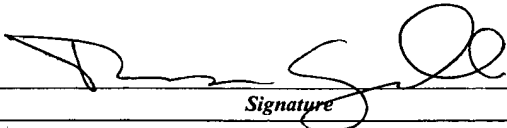
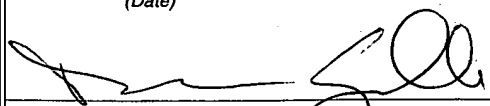


THW 3731

<b>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)</b>					Docket No. <b>15248</b>	
Applicant(s): <b>Junichi Muramatsu, et al.</b>						
Application No. <b>10/067,607</b>	Filing Date <b>February 5, 2002</b>	Examiner <b>Glenn K. Dawson</b>	Customer No. <b>23389</b>	Group Art Unit <b>3731</b>	Confirmation No. <b>5886</b>	
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; margin-right: 10px; text-align: center;">             RECEIVED              DEC 27 2005              PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE           </div> <div>             Invention: <b>APPARATUS FOR LIGATING LIVING TISSUES</b> </div> </div>						
<b>COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:</b>						
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.						
The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.						
<b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</b>						
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	
TOTAL CLAIMS	22 -	34 =	0	x \$50.00	\$0.00	
INDEP. CLAIMS	6 -	7 =	0	x \$200.00	\$0.00	
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00	
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT</b>					<b>\$0.00</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____ <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account <b>19-1013/SSMP</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16. <input type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038.						
<b>WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</b>						
 _____ <i>Signature</i>			Dated: <b>December 21, 2005</b>			
<b>Thomas Spinelli</b> <b>Registration No.: 39,533</b>			I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on <div style="text-align: center;"> <b>12/21/05</b>          (Date)       </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">           _____  <i>Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence</i> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <b>Thomas Spinelli</b>          _____  <i>Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence</i> </div>			
CC:						



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant(s):** Junichi Muramatsu, et al.

**Examiner:** Glenn K. Dawson

**Serial No:** 10/067,607

**Art Unit:** 3731

**Filed:** February 5, 2002

**Docket:** 15248

**For:** APPARATUS FOR LIGATING  
LIVING TISSUES

**Dated:** December 21, 2005

**Conf. No.:** 5886

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE**

Sir:

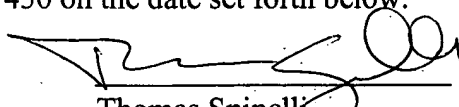
In response to the Official Action dated September 28, 2005, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in light of the following amendments and remarks:

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

Dated: December 21, 2005

  
Thomas Spinelli